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April 17, 2014
Chairman Bernie Sanders
United States Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs
Russell Senate Building - Room 412
Washington, D.C. 20510-6050

State Capital, Phoenix – Speaker of the Arizona House of Representatives Andy Tobin (R-Prescott) and Rep. Justin Pierce, Chairman Public Safety, Military and Regulatory Affairs (R-Mesa)

Dear Chairman Sanders,

The reported near 40 deaths at the Phoenix Veterans Affairs Hospital due to mismanagement and neglect is beyond anything we could have imagined happening at a facility that has as its sole purpose the care of the military men and women who have risked their lives protecting ours.

It goes without saying that this kind of organizational behavior is completely unacceptable and the individuals involved in this very sad situation must be held accountable.

All veterans must be treated with the honor, respect and loyalty that they have given us and our country by their service. As representatives of the state of Arizona we will be aggressively looking into what we can do to protect those who defended our freedoms.

We also respectfully request that the Senate VA Committee initiate an investigation and hold hearings as soon as possible into the events at the Phoenix VA Hospital. Our nation has a duty to provide the best quality of care to those who have served and sacrificed on our behalf, and we must hold accountable those responsible for breaking faith with that solemn obligation.

Sincerely,

A black and white photograph of a handwritten signature, which appears to be "A. M. Tobin", written in dark ink on a light background.

Andy Tobin
Speaker of the House

A black and white photograph of a handwritten signature, which appears to be "Justin Pierce", written in dark ink on a light background.

Justin Pierce
House Representative